Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Edwin Berreth and Laura Vossler exchanged their wedding vows on March 31, 1935, in a small country church north of Zeeland, North Dakota; and,

Whereas, That same year, Edwin and Laura moved to Lodi, California, to seek employment, which they found in fields, orchards, and vineyards picking fruit; Laura was also able to work in the cannery while Edwin worked for the WPA and PWA work programs established during the Depression; and,

Whereas, Edwin and Laura moved 17 times during their stay in California, each time improving their situation as they could afford it, and they brought their first child, Carol, into the world; and,

Whereas, After 3½ years in California, they saved enough money to return to South Dakota where they bought a farm near Herreid, gave life and love to three more children, Clifford, Betty, and Dale, and have been additionally blessed with 10 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren; and,

Whereas, The newly-wed couple of 70 years ago has been replaced by two devoted partners who have shared life's beauty and sorrow, and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey; and,

Whereas, It is altogether fitting and proper that the Governor of South Dakota recognizes and commemorates the memorable milestones in the lives of the state's outstanding citizens as their family hosts a gathering to celebrate the occasion on April 2, 2005:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2005, as

EDWIN & LAURA BERRETH DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with the honored couple's family and friends in wishing them continued health and happiness in a state that stands prouder today because of their contributions and commitment.

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In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State